22nd February 1955]

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (a) Nine.

" (b) Seventeen thousand and forty-eight applications up to the 30th November 1954."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, this question involves a vital issue. Hence, I request that a half-hour debate on this subject may be allowed."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I shall look into the matter and see whether a half-hour debate is necessary or not."

Stake-net fishing.

* 844 *Q.*—SRI M. CHADAYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Harijan applicants for licences for stake-nets;

(b) the number of licences issued to Harijans in Chirakkal taluk on 12th and 13th October 1954;

(c) whether any memorandum has been received from the public against the distribution of licences issued on those dates specially from Harijans; and

(d) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Seventeen.

" (b) One.

" (c) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (d) An enquiry was conducted and the report of the enquiry is under consideration of the Government."

SRI S. DAIVASIKHAMONEY :—" I suppose the place where they fish is the sea or the backwaters of the sea. This place being common to all and especially when persons go there to earn their livelihood, why should licence fees be collected from them? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Fees are collected and licences are insisted upon in order to regulate the traffic."

Kottapadi-Kundakadavu road.

* 845 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER :—" As the hon. Member Sri N. Gopala Menon who gave notice of the question is not in his seat, the answer together with the question will be printed in the official proceedings."